Program Activities – Risk RED’s accomplishments in 2011:

DREAMS (Disaster Reduction Education Learning Support System): This year Risk RED completed the DREAMS for Turkey project initiated in 2009, with the Ministry of National Education of Turkey, sponsored by the American Red Cross.

Achievements include production of 2 online self-study courses consisting of a total of 20 lessons (see next page) developed to introduce Individual and Family Disaster Preparedness and School Disaster Management, for teachers throughout Turkey’s 30,000 schools.

Within the first three months of availability of these lessons on the Ministry of National Education’s new e-learning portal, more than 250,000 lessons had been completed by at least 59,000 Turkish school teachers and school administrators. At the end of 2011, more than 10,000 teachers had completed each of the courses, demonstrating that online self-study programs can be an effective means of scaling-up delivery of disaster prevention education.

The project also amassed and organized more than 2,000 free-standing and re-usable ‘learning objects’ for disaster risk reduction and as more than 1,000 editable screens in Adobe Captivate.

ShakeOut: Risk RED continued to support the promotion of community-wide disaster drills as a large-scale community learning and disaster preparedness research laboratory by leading the ShakeOut Research and Evaluation Team.

Coalition for Global School Safety and Disaster Prevention Education: We also continued support to the Coalition for Global School Safety social networking website, and provided a variety of writing, presentation, and consultations to support school safety and disaster risk reduction education in general.
The DREAMS for TURKEY project provided 20 self-paced e-learning lessons (see adjacent list). The lessons feature an appealing set of characters, graphics for visualizing key concepts, colorful scenes accurately portraying key activities, photographic examples, videos, interactions to reinforce learning, male and female voices narrators, closed captioning, review questions, and documents and forms.

The project also provided leadership training for 25 teachers from 14 provinces with the largest populations of school-age children at risk in Turkey (see photo on page 4). Most of the instructors had demonstrated tremendous dedication to disaster prevention education since becoming Basic Disaster Awareness instructor-trainers in 2005. They are eager to support implementation in their own and neighboring provinces. Many now stay in touch via a Facebook group.

We were less successful when it came to achieving our vision for prototyping a multi-partner, customizable and action-oriented learning management system based on the open source Moodle platform. We had a tiny budget to try to achieve a very ambitious concept. An equally enthusiastic, but ultimately disappointing sub-contractor tried to do the job for us skipping the critical first step of designing the system architecture before moving on to programming. Since they couldn’t deliver a working system, we will be relying on implementation of a very basic Moodle installation. Tough but important lessons were learned.

Character set developed for use in global programs addressing disaster risk reduction and school safety.
The ShakeOut Research and Evaluation Team

For the fourth year running, Risk RED led the ShakeOut Research and Evaluation team in the continuous improvement of our post-drill questionnaire, which surveys disaster preparedness and drill participation and impact in:

• K-12 public & private schools
• Public school districts and groups of private schools
• Universities & colleges
• Organizations (of all kinds)
• Individuals and households

Primary investigators, Drs. Rebekah Green (Western Washington University’s Resilience Institute), Michele Wood (California State University Fullerton) and Marla Petal along with SCED Director of Communication, Education and Outreach (and Risk RED Board Member) Mark Benthien, continue to improve the survey. This year the survey went out to ShakeOut participants in California, Guam, Oregon and Nevada and for the first time to fourteen states in the Central U.S.

Partnering with the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium, IFRC International, and FEMA, we produced the 2011 Central US ShakeOut Survey Report, summarizing responses from all sectors.

In 2011 Risk RED the team recruited and supervised three summer interns who worked to support both the design and analysis of our ShakeOut survey.

The iconography set above provides a valuable re-usable source of ‘learning objects’ that partners can use for a variety of educational materials, such as the poster and bookmark shown here.

Risk RED continues to work with Earthquake Country Alliance to promote community-wide earthquake drills internationally. This year guiding participants from Japan who are implementing a large-scale ShakeOut in downtown Tokyo in 2012.

Disaster preparedness iconography

Andrea Nguyen, Rhode Island School of Design student worked with Risk RED to develop an extensive set of re-usable iconography for use in information graphics, and outreach and education materials.

The icons illustrate the key groups of participants, and the key actionable planning, risk reduction, and response preparedness measures that annual community-wide ShakeOut drills teach and
Risk RED appreciates the many in-kind contributions provided this year by Board Members, Associates and Advisors as well as the hard work of consultants, interns, volunteers and trainees who have shared in our vision.

2011: Risk RED’s Summer Interns participated in week-long orientation at SCEC and with Dr. Michele Wood at Cal State University, Fullerton

Lead Instructors complete a week-long training in School Disaster Management, hosted by Kandilli Observatory & Earthquake Research Institute, and led by DREAMS Country Director, Zeynep Türkmen Sanduvaç

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Ben Wisner

2011 INTERNS:
Ruth Weiderecht
Andrea Nguyen
Alicia Leslie
meetings & presentations, consultations, and publications

with support from Risk RED consultants, associates and friends

CONSULTATIONS
REMS for Best Practices in School Disaster Preparedness March (Marla Petal).

MEETINGS & PRESENTATIONS
Interview for UNICEF’s ‘Beyond School Books’ podcast series. Distributed via PRX and One World Radio (Marla Petal)

Comprehensive School Safety: Disaster-Proofing in the Education Sector, USAID Global Workshop on Education and Development (Marla Petal)

School Disaster Readiness: Lessons from the First Great Southern California ShakeOut, Civil Defense International Universities (Zeynep Türkmen Sanduvaç, Marla Petal)


PUBLICATIONS


Risk RED is looking ahead towards involvement in cutting-edge initiatives for scaling-up and improving disaster prevention education impacts. Some of these are:

• Development of the DREAMS learning object repository into a searchable content management system, and a collaborative authoring system to increase efficiency in production of educational materials for deployment on a variety of platforms.

• The introduction of widespread key messaging for disaster prevention: We are supporting the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in development and validation of Harmonized Key Messages for Disaster Reduction, intended as a resource and starting point for development of appropriate and consensus-based messages at the national level.

• The emergence of detailed content for a shared understanding of the ‘what’ and ‘how’ of disaster prevention (including the ‘scope and sequence’ of problem-solving skills for disaster reduction within school curricula. This is an initiative that UNESCO, UNISDR, UNICEF and major child-oriented NGOs internationally.

• The development of serious and real-impact games for change, to engage youth in world-changing disaster prevention through challenging, and rewarding local and international group play.

2012 work plan

DREAMS:
• Complete translation of online Individual and Family Disaster Prevention, and School Disaster Management courses (20 lessons) in English.
• Mount RiskRED Moodle for sharing these in English and Turkish.
• Share images of 2,000+ drr education ‘learning objects’ available to partners for re-use.
• Partnership exploration and proposal development for collaborative authoring system and shared learning object repository.

SHAKEOUT DRILLS RESEARCH

OTHER
Consultations in areas of:
• School Disaster Management & School Safety
• Public Education and Awareness Education in Emergencies.
• Research and resources linking theory and practice / research and action.

Financial Report Summary:

2011
Bal C/F: $117,913
Income: $14,250
Expenses: $84,224
Fund Balance: $47,939

Risk RED is a 501c3 non-profit incorporated in the state of California. It is a “virtual ngo” operating without permanent dedicated corporate offices, in order to keep overhead low. Risk RED’s typical overhead rate is 15%.